DIA DE PORTUGAL IS COMING!

It’s coming!  California’s biggest Portuguese event is the Dia de Portugal festival at San Jose’s History Park in Kelley Park, this year on June 10, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Why do we stage a very big and wonderful festival, now in its 20th year? Dia de Portugal showcases the customs, history, culture, and contributions of Portugal, Portuguese-born, and Portuguese descendants here in California. We want the non-Portuguese to know more about us. And we want to know more about ourselves. We want everyone to have a good time!

There’s music and dance entertainment all day, a parade at noon, wonderful children’s activities, an art show and book display, information booths, and--of course--food. There’s even a wine-tasting garden. Except for food and drink, it’s all free--what a bargain! (Some parking lots do charge a $6 per car fee, $2 for seniors; others are free.) Children’s activities include crafts, organized games, story telling, beanbag toss, “dress like Queen Isabel” for girls and “dress like Prince Henry” for boys.

This year’s focus is on the Portuguese world (former colonies where Portuguese is still the national language) and foods that left Portugal to become--surprisingly--staples in non-Portuguese places. As part of the Portuguese world and our emphasis on foods, we are delighted to have food booths from Goa and Brazil--both new this year--and from Macau, long-time vendor, all selling their delicacies. Other booths sell a variety of yummy Portuguese foods: continental, Azorean, Madeiran. We’re bringing back cooking demonstrations, sure to draw big audiences.

Are there newsletter readers who would like to volunteer for a two-hour shift at the festival? Volunteers do get some special benefits (food, drink, free parking) besides the satisfaction and fun of being very helpful and meeting new people. Please tell us in advance if you’d like to help: (408) 293-3053 or e-mail machado0568@sbcglobal.net or go to the website diadeportugalca.org to sign up.

SEE YOU AT DIA DE PORTUGAL!
BRAZIL

Brazil has been an independent country for so long (since 1822) that some people don’t even realize it was once a Portuguese colony—except that Portuguese is the language of its 206 million people.

Brazil is the fifth largest country in the world, the largest in South America, and noted for dense Amazon-region rain forest to coastal beaches. It is a sports power and a land of great economic contrast. Its foreign policy is based on non-intervention in the affairs of other countries. It gives humanitarian assistance and contributes to the World Food Programme. On the less positive side Brazil has long-standing patterns of corruption.

THE BEGINNINGS

After Vasco da Gama successfully sailed around South Africa, Portuguese King Manuel wanted a repeat voyage and chose Pedro Alvares Cabral to lead a fleet of 13 ships setting off in 1500. They intended to follow the west coast of Africa but somehow—and no one today knows why—they veered westward, all the way to the coast of what is now Brazil. (That’s an error of some 3000 miles!) They knew they were east of the line established by the Treaty of Tordesillas, so the new land definitely would belong to Portugal. Cabral sent one of his ships back to Lisbon to tell the king of the discovery while the other 12 ships headed back to the correct route around Africa.

The Portuguese were not particularly excited by the South American discovery; they were concentrating on Asian exploration and attempting to take control of the spice trade from India and the Spice Islands (now mostly in Indonesia). Settlement of the long coastline and inland areas would be impossibly expensive. The area was sparsely populated by tribes of natives who were often fighting each other.

While the Portuguese had originally named the area Santa Cruz, it soon took its present name from the trees which produced a deep red dye that was highly valued by the European cloth industry. Brazilwood was the first commercial product from the area.

To “govern” the new land the Portuguese king decided on a land grant system where huge areas were bestowed on trusted persons who were responsible for bringing in colonists, developing agricultural resources, establishing tax and governmental systems, and in turn having certain financial and legal obligations to Portugal. Of the 15 “grants,” only a few were successful. Meanwhile the French were threatening colonization, and Portugal realized it needed more control. In 1549 a governor general was appointed.

Cane sugar, much in demand worldwide, became Brazil’s most important export. The plantation workers needed to produce the sugar became the most important import: slaves from Africa. Slaves were brought by the millions from both coasts of Africa beginning in the 1560’s. Conditions on the ships were horrific. Many died en route, and brutal treatment continued in Brazil. Many risked their lives to escape; many others committed suicide to end their suffering. As sugar production declined and mining dominated, slaves were shifted to mine work with continued brutality. Two thirds of Brazil’s population in 1800 were African-born or descendants of slaves.

The Gold Rush that followed the 1690 discovery of gold attracted new settlers. The original boundaries (the Treaty of Tordesillas line) gradually moved westward as settlers wanted more space.

In 1807 French and Spanish forces were threatening the Portuguese so Prince Regent João moved the royal court and government from Lisbon to Brazil. It was highly unusual for the royalty and government to be in a colony of the mother country, so the crown established the “United Kingdom of Portugal, Brazil, and the Algarves,” essentially making Brazil part of Portugal, not a colony. But in 1821 João went back to Portugal as European governments demanded the return of the government to the continent. He left his son Pedro in charge in Brazil.

INDEPENDENCE

Brazilians were demanding independence and Prince Pedro took their side, declaring independence on September 7, 1822, then becoming the first emperor of Brazil. Brazil’s independent beginnings were marked by administrative turmoil, political dissension, localized rebellions, and social tension. Slavery was a central issue. The Atlantic slave trade had ended in 1859, but only in 1888 were slaves freed in Brazil. In 1889 the monarchy was overthrown by a military (continued on page 3)
LIONEL B. GOULARTE: PORTUGUESE COMMUNITY LOSES LEADER AND FRIEND

The Portuguese Historical Museum—and the entire Portuguese-American community of California—lost one of its most beloved persons with the death of Lionel Goularte on March 28, 2017. He was 91.

One of 15 children born to immigrants from Faial and Pico, Azores, he was born and raised in Warm Springs, now a part of Fremont, where his father was the foreman of the very large Curtner Ranch. The children all grew up with farm life and chores. The old farm land is now residential but includes Rancho Higuera Historic Park and Open Space.

Lionel enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1943 to serve his country in World War II where he was a cook on board the supply ship USS El Dorado in the Pacific. He was later called to active duty in Korea. He enrolled in San Jose State where he majored in business administration and earned his teaching credential. He did graduate work at several universities and later became a high school business teacher, counselor, then principal of Menlo-Atherton High School.

Throughout his life Lionel was involved in community service, helping immigrants from around the world to become U.S. citizens, and serving on the Fremont-Horta Sister Cities commission, the Portuguese Heritage Publications board of directors, and the San Jose State Portuguese Studies committee. He was a very generous contributor to the San Jose State-Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, to POSSO, and to several churches.

For the Portuguese Historical Museum he was involved in exhibit preparation, guiding museum visitors, and chairing the annual festival (a huge job) as well as responsibilities of a board member.

While he received many awards from Portuguese-American organizations as well as the Silver Medal of Merit from the Portuguese government, he was truly a world citizen.

Lionel had a great sense of humor, was always kind, and was beloved by all who knew him. While he was the last survivor of his immediate family, he leaves many, many nieces, nephews, and cousins. His dear wife Bernadine pre-deceased him in 2014. They had no children. Services were held in Fremont on April 21. Memorial donations may be made to the PFSA Scholarship Fund, 1120 East 14th Street, San Leandro, CA 94577, or the Jack of Hearts Fund at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital, 220 Montgomery Street, 5th floor, San Francisco, CA 94104.

(continued from page 2) coup which established a dictatorship. In 1894 civilians rose to power, but instability continued. In a 1930 revolution Getúlio Vargas took over as a dictator noted for his government’s brutality and censorship of the press. In 1945 he was removed by yet another military coup. There were several short-term presidencies until 1956 when Juscelino Kubitschek took over. He was noted for the construction of Brasilia, the new capital city (1960) and remarkable economic and industrial growth. His second successor was deposed by another military coup (1964) that became a dictatorship. Civilians gained power in 1985. Fernando Cardoso was elected president in 1994 and again in 1998. Luís Inácio Lula da Silva was elected in 2002 and 2006, then succeeded by Dilma Rousseff in 2010. She was impeached in 2016.

TODAY

Brazil has a growing and diversified economy. Agricultural products include coffee, oranges, sugarcane, and soybeans. Manufactured goods include cars, steel and petrochemicals, computers, aircraft, and consumer goods. Oil production is important as is tourism.

There are free public health services and education for everyone. About 20% of tax money is budgeted for schools. The literacy rate is over 90%.

Racial and ethnic mixing is an important aspect of Brazil where Europeans, Africans, and native Americans have intermarried for centuries. In describing themselves, 48% identify as white, 44% as brown (mixed), 7% as black, 1% as Asian. The largest Japanese population outside of Japan is in São Paulo.

In a future newsletter we will write about Brazil’s music, foods, sports and literature -- oh, yes, tele-novelas too!
RAFFLE PRIZES ARE EXCELLENT

Excellent prizes every year! That’s a description of the Portuguese Museum’s annual raffle, the major fund raiser for the annual *Dia de Portugal* festival. You might want to participate and maybe win a prize. This year’s first prize is courtesy of Azores Airlines, a pair of round trip air fares from Boston to either the Azores or Lisbon. This wonderful prize has a value of over $2000. Thank you, Azores Airlines! Another thank you goes to Adega Restaurant of San Jose for their donation of a $120 gift certificate as a prize.

The prizes this year are:

- **1st**: Round trip air fares for two
- **2nd**: $450
- **3rd**: $250
- **4th**: Adega Restaurant gift certificate
- **5th**: Gourmet food basket

A suggested donation is $5 per ticket or six tickets for $20, but a donation is not required to participate. The drawing will be at 4:30 p.m. at *Dia de Portugal*. You need not be present to win. Enclosed is a book of raffle tickets for your convenience. Also, tickets are available at *Dia de Portugal* or by mail.

Congratulations to last year’s winners:

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<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Deanna Brownlee</td>
<td>Pinole</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Michele Amador</td>
<td>Livingston</td>
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<td>3rd</td>
<td>David Capella</td>
<td>San Jose</td>
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<td>4th</td>
<td>Mr. and Mrs. Indelicato</td>
<td>Manteca</td>
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<td>5th</td>
<td>David Freitas</td>
<td>San Jose</td>
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PIOНИER STORIES WANTED

The Portuguese Historical Museum wants to expand its exhibit on pioneer families in the greater Santa Clara Valley. Do you know stories of ancestors: where they came from and when, where they settled, their early lives here, something about the family today?

A museum volunteer will interview you, write a short story for you to approve, and ask for a few photos if you have them (which we will copy, not keep). It’s that easy. Museum visitors will enjoy reading the stories, and you will feel a certain pride in seeing your family story. Please call (408)293-3053, e-mail machado0568@sbcglobal.net or write PO Box 18277, San Jose, CA 95158. We really hope to hear from you!

NEWSLETTER IDEAS?

Do you like receiving this newsletter? Do you find the stories informative or interesting? Do you have ideas to change or improve it or story topic ideas? Or maybe you’d like to stop getting the newsletter. Please let us know if any of these thoughts inspire you. And tell us if you don’t want to receive annual raffle tickets with your newsletter. Call (408)293-3053 or e-mail machado0568@sbcglobal.net or write PO Box 18277, San Jose, CA 95158. THANK YOU!